(c) whether it is a fact that 100 acres of land has already been identified for the purpose; and

(d) by when a final decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No Sir, the Government of Karnataka has not approached the Central Government for setting up of a Science Park at Hesarghatta near Bangalore.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes Sir, the Government of Karnataka has already identified 100 acres of land for the purpose at Hesarghatta near Bangalore. The process of acquiring the said land is underway.

Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC)

3198. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the decade 1992-03 the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) sanctioned more than 150 projects under three programmes;

(b) if so, how many of these sanctioned projects were not achieved or only partially achieved;

(c) whether technologies developed by TIFAC were not commercialized; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. During the period 145 projects were sanctioned under the Home Grown Technologies Mission, Advanced Composites Technologies Mission and Fly Ash Mission Projects.

(b) Out of 145 sanctioned projects, 68 have been evaluated by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. As per the report there is a success rate of 68 percent.

(c) and (d) Commercialization of technologies was attempted in all the cases and the private entrepreneurs attempted to implement the same. However, they failed to carry it beyond a point due to extreme criticality of

targeted technologies which they felt might become unviable due to changed market conditions. It may be noted that projects with a significant innovation/ technology development element are inherently unpredictable with regard to their outcome.

Geographical changes due to Tsunami

3199. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tsunami pushed India 12 cms closer to Indonesia according to the Scientists of National Geographical Research Institute; and

(b) if so, what impact it would have when there is another Tsunami in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes Sir. The data collected and analyzed from two permanent Global Positioning System (GPS) stations, one located at Sumatra namely at Medan, and the other located at Bangalore indicates decrease in distance of 12 cms.

(b) This change will have no impact in case another Tsunami occurs in the region.

Funds for women scientists

†3200. SHRIMATI KUMKUM RAI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that women scientists in the country do not get timely funds to carry out the research work;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of women scientists who have been provided with funds to carry out research in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 244 women scientists have been provided with funds to carry out research under the Schemes "Women Scientists Scheme—A

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.